

COURIER

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typed
MCL-A-

8105

10 September 1951

Chief, CIC Liaison Section

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

Walter NEIPEL

Reference: MCLA-7854, MGSA-4745

Your attention is invited to MCLA-7854 which obviously you
had not received at the time MGSA-4745 was dispatched.

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SECRET EXHIBIT "I"
STATEMENT

Statement of: Walter GEIPEL

Address: FASSMANNREUTH 81

Date of Birth: 15 April 1916

Date: 10 September 1951

Place of Birth: PLAUKEN/Vogtl.

I make the following statement voluntarily, not having been threatened, not having been promised anything and not having been ill-treated.

Signature: a/ GEIPEL

1. Walter GEIPEL Cover names: Gunter WALTER
Walter REISINGER
Werner GRUMERT
2. Kennkarte: REHAU B 513 923, issued on 10 November 1949.
3. FASSMANNREUTH 81, Kreis REHAU.
4. From birth up to the 18th year of age: PLAUKEN/Vogtl., Pestalozzistr. 28.
From the 18th to the 21st year of age: DRESDEN-TRACHENBERG.
From the 21st to the 22nd year of age: BRAUNSCHWEIG, Junkarschule
(officer aspirants training school)
From 1938 to 1945: In the Army in MUNICH, ABOLLEN, DACHAU, BRAUNSCHWEIG,
Poland, BRUESLAU, GOSLAR, Norway, Russia, Italy, Yugoslavia.
From June 1945 to October 1945: In EKERSBERG, Brft.
From November 1945 to September 1946: In BREITBACH near ERRACH/Off.,
under the name WOLF.
From October 1946 to January 1947: At home in FASSMANNREUTH. This was
known, however, only to my wife and other good acquaintances.
January 1947 up to December 1947: In the camps DACHAU, REGENSBURG,
HAUENSELBBURG.
Since December 1947: In FASSMANNREUTH.
5. Male, 182 cm, 80 kg, eyes blue, hair brown, build slender, married, German
citizen, Born 15 April 1916 in PLAUKEN/Vogtl., former soldier, now commercial
representative, religion evangelic, scar at the right upper part of
the thigh.
6. Political Affiliations: Before 1933: None
1933 - 1945: HJ, NSDAP, Fighting SS
After 1945: None
7. Spouse, Friends, Relatives, Associates:
 - a. Martha GEIPEL, nee DISPANG, born 11 May 1917 in PLAUKEN/V., living in
FASSMANNREUTH, house-wife.
 - b. Siegfried ROTHGUNZ, approximately 33 years, living DACHAU, Bavaria, 18,
commercial traveller.

EXHIBIT "I"

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Dr. Hans SCHLICKER, approximately 34 years old, living in COBURG, physician.

Rainhold KNOELL, approximately 37 years, PASSMANNREUTH 76, bricklayer.

c. Mother: Johanna GEIPEL, nee MAERZ, born 9 August 1894 in PLAUE/V., needle-woman, living in BAMBERG, Hohenzollernstr. 17.

Father: August GEIPEL, near STUTTGART, approximately 60 years old, locksmith. (The marriage of my parents is divorced since 1923, I was living with my mother).

A stepbrother, living in PLAUE with the 2nd wife of my father, is called Rudolf. He is approximately 22 years old. I never saw him.

Father-in-law: Dead since 1917.

Mother-in-law: Minna DESPANG, nee PFULLER, approximately 66 years old, born in Saxony, pensioned.

Children: Lore GEIPEL, born 26 July 1940 in PERMITZ/Austria.
Annelie GEIPEL, born 4 October 1944 in MARIEBAD.
Klaus GEIPEL, born 4 May 1948 in PASSMANNREUTH.

Cousin: Elfriede GRENZ, nee MAERZ, born 30 January 1910 in PLAUE/V., living in BAMBERG, Karolinenstr. 14, house-wife.

d. Dr. Johannes WEBER, physician, approximately 40 years of age, RECHNITZLOSUA near REHAU.

Otto LADING, approximately 48 years, foreman, RECHNITZLOSUA.

Liska KNOELL, approximately 36 years, housewife, PASSMANNREUTH 76.

Kurt GERRETH, approximately 31 years, carpenter, PASSMANNREUTH.

Robert RIEDER, approximately 44 years, PASSMANNREUTH, No. 51, manufacturer of liquor.

Karl SCHMIDT, approximately 46 years, HOF, Fabrikstraße, salaried.

Max RÖDEL, REHAU, Fischerstr. 1, butcher.

Hermann PLOOS, REHAU, Unilitzsteig 1, bookkeeper.

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Course of Life:

On 15 April 1916, I was born in PLAUE/V., as the single child of my parents, the mechanic August GRIPPEL and his wife Johanna nee HAERZ. From 1922 to 1926 I attended the elementary school there, from 1926 to 1927 the "class of languages," from 1927 to 1933 the German High School. In 1933 and 1934 I worked as volunteer for the "Vogtländische Maschinenfabrik" (VOMAG) in PLAUE/V. At that time I was for 3 months a member of SJ.

On 5 October 1934, I joined the fighting SS in DRESDEN-THACHENBERGE. After a short training I was ordered to I./SS 2. From 1 April 1937, up to 30 March 1938 I attended as "Facharist" (officer candidate) the SS-Junkerschule (officer aspirants training school) in BRAUNSCHWEIG. There I was advanced on 1 October 1937 to the rank of a "Standartenjunker" (Facharist), on 1 February 1938 to a "Standartenoberjunker" (Oberfacharist), on 13 March 1938 to an "Untersturmführer" (Lieutenant). Later I served for: the SS Administrative School in DACHAU up to 1 November 1938, the SS Region (Oberabschnitt) FULDA-ESSEN in AROLSEN up to 1 April 1939, the SS-Junkerschule (officer aspirant school) in BRAUNSCHWEIG up to 1 December 1939, as chief of courses of instruction in EKESLAU up to 1 April 1940, as adjutant of the school of non-commissioned officers in LUDWITZ up to 15 June 1940. On 20 April 1940, I was advanced to an SS-Obersturmführer (1st Lieutenant).

Further employments: Platoon-leader and adjutant of I./SS WESTLAND in MÜNICH up to 1 November 1940, company commander of the SS replacement battalion in COSLAR up to 1 February 1941, adjutant of the III./SS 9 in North Norway up to 7 September 1941. There I was wounded near NURMANSK (Russia). Up to 1 February 1942 in the hospitals TROMSØ, MARVIK and SCHIERIN. Then company commander of the headquarters company of the tank-detachment SS Division WIKING in WILD-PLATZEN, SKRUELAUGEN and Russia (ROSTOV, Caucasus Mountains, Kirov, Dnepr). On 30 January 1943, I was advanced to captain. Having been wounded again and ill I was transferred on 1 April 1943 to the SS Tank Training Bgt. in BITSCHE. There I was the commander of the 5th company. From there I was ordered as teacher of tactics for tanks and chief of inspection to the Tank-School of the Army to KYLOS and FALLINGDOSTEL. There I was up to the 1 May 1944. Then I became company commander of the 2./SS Tank Bgt 16 in Hungary. In the beginning of June 1944 I was transferred to Italy. On 2 July 1944 I was wounded again, and was in the hospitals BOLOGNA and BAD KISSINGEN. Since 1 December 1944 I was a major of the headquarters of the Tank Training Bgt in SKRUELAUGEN. From 15 January 1945, I was commander of the IIIrd training group of the school of non-commissioned officers in LAIBACH. There I was at the end of the war.

Became a prisoner of war of the English. Escaped in the Wit-Sunday night 1945 to VIECHLAUER near SALZBURG. From there I came home. As the place was occupied by the Americans, I went to my brother-in-law Dr. KERSTING in EIDENBERG/Brft., where I was living under the name Gunter WOLF up to the October 1945. There I lived as Gunter WOLF in BREITRACH near EBRACH/Oberfranken up to October 1946. Later I was living at home, not observed by any unknown persons. I was

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to be confined in a camp, because I fell under the orders of automatic arrest. Only near relatives knew that I was at home. At the end of January 1947, I reported myself to the Constabulary in REHNAU. I was transported through HOE to DACHAU, from there to the camp REGENSBURG and later to the camp HÜMELBURG. On 24 December 1947 I was sentenced by the Spruchkammer and released.

In February 1948, Herr BRADATSCH living as sub-tenant in my apartments, was called upon by three men being dressed in leather-cloaks and having a Volks-wagen. My wife told me that these men are of the CIC. She told me already, when I was still in the camp REGENSBURG, that the new tenant in our house, the chief of the Border Police Post MURR, works for the American Secret Service. The wife of MURR had told it to my wife, and gave her also something of the cigarettes and the coffee they had received from these men. Later Herr MURR brought to this house also Herr BRADATSCH.

Not 2b
I myself was also interested in this work and asked Herr BRADATSCH for the address of one of these men. (At that time Herr MURR did not work longer for these men). I received the clear address of the chief of R 131, cover-name FISCHER. I visited him and I received after approximately 4 weeks the task to make agitation in East-Thuringia and North-West-Saxony. In April 1948, I went on my trip with I-pass. I demanded a Kennkarte and I-pass for the name Walter GUNTHER (corresponding to the monogram W.G. on my ring and clothes). In POSSSECK I went to the police to get billets, and I would have had nearly a bad luck, because the papers were issued not for Walter GUNTHER, but for Gunter WALTER. I was saved only by my presence of mind. This thoughtless action of the organization caused the first interior break in me. I had good successes and returned after about 3 weeks. I had occupied, as far as I remember, 11 towns.

In the beginning of May 1948, I was ordered the 2nd time to drive there with I-pass. I had again good successes and returned well. The 3rd time I drove only in August 1948. In the meantime, in a discussion in July 1948 in ESSLINGEN at the Organization 120, I was reprimanded that my men did not report themselves. However, the confidential men had not yet received this order, because only in the above-mentioned conference was fixed to write the reports by secret ink. This means, that I was reprimanded absolutely unjustly.

For my 3rd drive I didn't get an I-pass, but I was ordered to cross the border illegally with false East-Zonal documents. I couldn't understand that. They pretended the issue of a pass takes too much time. This action was absolutely unconscientious, because I knew at that time approximately 16 co-operators in the East Zone. Having executed my task I drove to West BERLIN, reported myself to the CIC and requested to fly back to the West Zone. I made there my statements at the CIC officer and told him my cover emergency number. They asked in the West by radio for the correctness of my statement and received a negative answer: They didn't know me! So I was compelled to cross again the border illegally. I left, however, my documents in BERLIN and requested to mail them by airmail to the Organization 120. My doubts

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about the illegal return to the US Zone were justified, because I was standing at the border 1½ hours in a distance of 5 meters behind a Russian double post. Only with greatest caution I succeeded in retiring and crossing the border. They had promised to me at that time a wrist watch for the execution of the tasks of the 3rd trip, however, I never received it. The greater part of the promises of the organization were not kept, and the rest of the promises were kept unpunctually.

Concert

After my 3rd trip I was together with my wife invited by the chief of the Organization 120, Herr HERMANN (cover name), to KÖSSLINGEN. He offered to me 500 DM for my expenses for fare, however, I took only 250 DM. They were not living badly at this organization, and I myself was also living fine, however, there was no comparison with them. I remember only the great number of packages of chocolate taken by Herr HERMANN to his wife being in the hospital, or the box with French cognac standing on the street beside the automobile. Instead of these things we received: toilet-paper, pipe cleaners and wicks for the lighter and etc.

For the service of this organization are characteristic the following facts, which I can state by oath:

1. In the office of R 131 Herr FISCHER criticized the frivolous keeping of the personal data by the Org. 120. "In a wooden chest locked up by a simple lock.

2. On the same occasion Herr FISCHER said: "The blond (or red-blond ?) girl, the red devil (he meant a secretary of 120) has attempted to commit suicide. First she was in the bed with Herr WEBER (at 120), and then with Herr HERMANN."

Wolke

3. On Easter 1949 I was with my wife for some days in ÜBERSIEK at the CHIEMSEE (lake), and the restaurant "Zum Hinterwirt" there was attended also by Herr WEBER and HERMANN. One evening we were sitting together with the tipsy innkeeper. He asked me courteously, if I am also a member of the espionage circle. Because Herr WEBER had told him about that. Once he was there also with a man of the Zeiss Works in JENA. They make economic espionage. But Herr WEBER is a fine customer and spends always much money. (NOTE: The reporter of the innkeeper).

4. Although Herr MÜRK and later also Herr ERABATSCH had retired from this work, I was visited all the time in my apartments by Herr KUNZ, KANSAN and WEBER (cover names). The Volkswagen automobiles were standing before the house. Once Frau MÜRK called from the window: "Now the men of the SIC come again to Herr GEIFEL." The men of the organization uncovered me at that time, when my work was still completely unknown in this community.

5. A radio operator appointed to work for my group, came to the agent to get some instructions. However, the instructors of the organization were not present, and this man was compelled after some days to go back without any results.

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6. They intended to conceal from me the transportation of a wireless apparatus determined for my group. The result was an intervention of the Bavarian Border Police. Later the apparatus was laid down in a certain, pretty opened place in the East Zone. *Karlsk*

7. The organization 131 received 10,000 DM each month. I was several times an eyewitness that Herr FISCHER made on a slip a private settlement of accounts, and I saw on the strip, the money was bundled with, the cipher 5,000 (there were 2 bundles). The organization had approximately 35 co-operators. I myself had 28 of them. However, I received altogether 3,000 DM.

These were only some examples. My fault was, that I retained too much money, however, I didn't embezzle this money. In my apartments it was sometimes like in a restaurant. There came co-operators from the one and from the other side, who were always, when they were at me or in a restaurant in the vicinity, living very well, sent or took with them home always many things. I myself was compelled to travel very much, and it was impossible to pay the expenses for these trips from the money given to me for these trips. To the automobile bought by Herr FISCHER, I was compelled to pay 600 DM. However, when I needed the automobile, it was not there. Later I bought, with the permission of Herr FISCHER, myself an automobile, and he lent me for this purchase 800 DM. Later this money was deducted from my salary.

This purchase of the automobile was disapproved by the organization. Besides that, I criticized a leave of Herr NEBER and his wife, and also some other things. In August 1949 for the E 131 was taken a house in BAYREUTH, and I should get with my family apartments in this house. I refused, however, to move to this house, because Herr FISCHER demanded the following:

1. To live there under a cover name. I have 3 children, 2 of them attend the school. I couldn't understand how the children should go to school.
2. Not to use the main entrance of the house.
3. Not to open the shutters in the front of this house.
4. The children are not permitted to play in the garden.

I resigned to live in such a madhouse, and I was again disapproved by the organization. At the end of August 1949 we had in BAYREUTH a serious quarrel. First they repreached me with having called BAYREUTH at 3 o'clock in the morning, although I was in a party. Actually I called already in the evening at 7 o'clock, and at 3 o'clock in the night I was at the border, where I met a man of my group (?). I learned later, that this call was made in the night at 3 o'clock from HOF. Probably the resident of 126 or 127 called from there. Then I was reprimanded, because I had said "my co-operators." They said to me, that these men are their co-operators, paid by their money. I answered that I had risked my life for them. It is true, I drove home from BAYREUTH, and

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sent nothing more to the B 131. I didn't hear from them for a long time. In October or November I was called by the chief of the Organisation 120. He wanted to speak with me in RIGA. We met each other, and Herr WEISER was also present. In the conversation was fixed that I should work again with my men, but for another organization. I agreed with it. Before Herr HERMANN said to me, that I was somehow suspected by a man of the organization to work also "for the other side." Because I wrote so often to my father. However, I didn't see and hear anything of my father since 1944. By reason of this mean suspicion, however, I wrote actually once to PLAUEN. I received an answer from my stepbrother, who informed me, that my father works since a longer time in some works near STUTTGART. So this mean suspicion broke down.

On 20 December 1949, I was ordered to MUNICH and became acquainted there with my new chief, Herr BAER (cover name). In January 1950, I had again a discussion with him in MUNSTER. There it was fixed that I should get the monthly sum of 1,000 DM; 400 for me, 200 DM for my trips, and 400 for the co-operators. The work got on very well. However, when the co-operators came to get here some instructions, I didn't have enough money. It happened several times, that I was compelled to give my wrist watch to the pawnshop in COLOGNE (I have witnesses). Possibly I was also too generous to some co-operators. Feasts were not celebrated, as Herr BAER reprimanded me later. I also didn't celebrate feasts alone and I did not drink. None of my co-operators saw me ever drunk. It is true, I bought from this money some new things without the knowledge of Herr BAER. This was not correct of me, and I understand that. I wanted always to help my co-operators, and I gave even once a false report to Herr BAER about the daily service of a Volkspolice unit, because the lady-co-operator coming into gave to me only very few informations. I know that I didn't act correctly, and in July 1950 I experienced the consequences: I was dismissed. I had in my apartments in the absence of my wife a vehement discussion, and in the course of this discussion I became more and more excited. Nevertheless Herr BAER was so honest to send to me in 3 or 4 months still the sum of 1200 DM.

I took then a job as a commercial representative of liquor, and I earned up to January 1950 an average 250 DM monthly. I would not have been able to live with my family from this money, however, I never told my wife, how much money I earned. The result was that I became indebted. I owe to my mother 400 DM, to the chief of the liquor enterprise still 400 DM (He gave me a notice of dismissal in February 1951). A bill of exchange of 300 DM expired on 3 September 1951. I was not able to discharge it. To a grocer I owe 40 DM, to a salesman of textiles 100 DM. I sold my bicycle for 50 DM. To a fish salesman I owe 50 DM, to an acquainted woman in HOP 50 DM, to a shoe shop 50 DM. Altogether I have debts of about 1,600 DM. I had even to do with the bailiff.

I didn't tell my wife anything though for a long time, and when the dunning letters and the creditors came to our house, my wife was shocked. If she would not have been, we would have died of hunger. She saved some money in the good years 1948/49, and I did not have any idea about it. She wanted to build our own little house and saved as much money as she could. I don't know, how much it was. I was able to give back some money to the most urgent creditors,

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and to pay the bailiff and the pawnshop. For the life she could buy only the most necessary things. I made all efforts to find a job. I was at the labor office, in factories, at the foreman of the forest workers - everywhere nothing. I drove by bicycle to NESSBACH in order to get a rent as a professional soldier. I hoped to get a rent as invalid - everywhere nothing. I didn't get even an unemployment support, and I don't want to get a welfare support. I made even a black market business with American goods. Now I have made an application to emigrate to Canada - and this is now my last hope.

I walked often in the forest in order to commit suicide. I have no remembered of children, and I thought, it must be better death. I could find no way to find other apartments. I must leave the border now by the mountains. In this place I cannot find an existence. 2. The threat from my side.

Since October/November 1950 happened the following:

My wife had since the beginning of 1950 a correspondence with a contact acquaintance of her, Herr Karl KLEIN, BRAUER/W., Strozzmannstr. 28, born approximately 1917, married, 2 children, former officer, now bookbinder at his father-in-law. In the summer 1949 he visited us once, and he sent sometimes packages to us in our civilian. He sold them and sent to him some food for this purpose. In the summer 1950 he sent those things through BERLIN. As far as I know, in the summer 1950 the SEDER man wrote to me, that KLEIN was a member of the SEDER and that he was arrested in connection with my activities. In October 1950 we received a letter from KLEIN, by which he informed us that he would visit us. A short time later, we received a telephone call of KLEIN, KLEIN was at us. My wife and I were very surprised to see him, we knew him, and I had not seen him for a long time. He talked frankly during their conversation. He informed us that he was a member of SEDER (now he said that it was not true, he was not a member of SEDER, he was not expected to be a co-operator of SEDER, he was not a member of SEDER, he was not true and that he didn't know anything about SEDER (he doesn't know anything). The SEDER left the KLEIN family, to go to the SEDER, to join this family, or to execute an order. On the 10th of October 1950 he left the KLEIN family. He confirmed everything until the day before the following:

1. The SEDER is the occupation forces East and West Germany in the situation?

2. The SEDER is in the East Zone?

3. The SEDER is not just a political party, but a political party?

4. The SEDER is not a political party, but a political party?

5. The SEDER is not a political party, but a political party?

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I reported that at once to Mr. WERNER, CIC HOF. I wrote it also to Herr BAKER and requested him to meet him in BAMBURG. However, I came late to this meeting for 1 hour. Shortly before or after Christmas Herr KLIMM appeared again. This time he was ordered to make the proposal to me to work for the other side. They had said that I am a chief agent and a criminal and that he would be able to exonerate himself for this crime, only if he would work for them. If I would refuse, they would be able to reach me. They would pay very well. The answer for me was given by my wife: "If you will do that, you will no longer have children and a wife." I reported also this visit and the last one to Mr. WERNER. The last visit is supposed to have been made in February. KLIMM was ordered to ask me again, if I am ready for cooperation. In the same moment, however, he said to me smiling, I should quietly refuse to do it, because he was ordered to tell me in this case, that they would desist from me.

He agreed to make some business with material, but this business was not realized. Probably his mail is controlled, and he is not permitted to write to me. Nevertheless I received recently a postcard, which I enclose here. I would like to stress that KLIMM was only compelled to make these trips as a messenger, and that he is certainly not a Russian agent.

By Herr FISCHER I was introduced in 1948 to Mr. ILL of the CIC SELB. Herr FISCHER requested Mr. ILL to help me, if it would be necessary. I asked also and demanded this help, when sometimes co-operators of mine came from the

were apprehended by the Border Police, and I was able

Once the office in SELB helped me to continue

in which were American goods. I had been

that time by Herr MULLER. In the autumn 1949 I called upon Mr. ILL and asked. I asked him, if he has a work for me and my co-operators. He said, I should come once again. However, Mr. ILL was transferred to BAYREUTH, and later to HEILBRONN (as I heard). I mailed a letter to HEILBRONN, however, I didn't receive an answer.

If Herr KLIMM will come again to the US Zone, I will report it, however, I ask for you not to arrest him, because he is not guilty of these orders. I never worked and I never will work against the US Zone. I call your attention to my residence near the border, and I request you, regarding the following that, 1. My SD activity is known on the other side and they make a surveillance of me. 2. I cannot find an existence in my residence, to enable an emigration of me and my family. I have already made an application to emigrate to Canada. Different persons in PASSAU and REINHOLD don't like me because of my former activity for the SD and because of my knowledge I have about the SD.

The regulation in my residence at different places know me as an SD agent. People, who don't know me or don't like me, especially the SD, they probably believe that I don't want to work again. However, I am not in any condition to this suggestion.

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I don't know other women. I am not a drinker, although I like to drink beer. I am not a member of a party, and I don't want to be a member of any party.

I made this statement voluntarily and it is true.

Read through, approved and signed

s/ GEIPRL

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